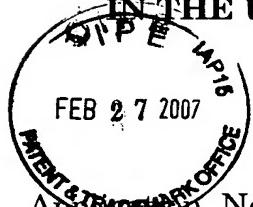


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Application No.: 10/579,493
Applicant : Hiroshi OMOTE, et al.
Filed : May 16, 2006
TC/A.U. : 2879
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Docket No. : 038685.57582US
Customer No. : 23911

Confirmation No. 1659

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the specification.